

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Jungle Owlet *Glaucidium radiatum* which was perched completely in the open on the outside of a tree at the forest edge not far from the Park Headquarters. We watched the bird for several minutes through telescopes mounted on tripods and there can be no doubt as to its identity as it is a very familiar species with us in England, even in our gardens. Because of this familiarity, most of the party preferred to watch the owlet, which was of course a new species for them!

The bird was about the size and general shape of a female House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* but rather longer-tailed. The upperparts were dull brown with a greyer tinge to the head and the underparts became whiter from the lower breast down to the under tail-coverts. There was no supercilium, the rather plain head being relieved by a slightly darker shade which ran either side of the rear of the crown down the sides of the nape. The wings

were darker than the mantle and had two very conspicuous white bands, a broad band of white on the median coverts and a narrower one formed by tips of the greater coverts. As it moved about the tree mobbing the Owlet the conspicuous white outer tail feathers and greenish tinge to the rump were noted and the crown feathers were raised to form a marked peak at the rear of the head. The greyish bill was markedly pointed and quite conical and the legs were greyish pink.

The occurrence of this species in Northern India in winter is hardly surprising as it is quite a frequent winter visitor to Afghanistan (where I have also seen it) and according to Ripley (1982) and Fleming *et al.* (1979) it is an occasional winter visitor to northern Pakistan and north-western Nepal. The most surprising thing being perhaps that it hasn't been picked up in winter in the Indian Himalayan foothills before.

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## 15. ADDITIONS TO THE BIRD SPECIES RECORDED FROM NEPAL

The following account provides data on bird species recorded from Nepal but which are not included in R. L. Fleming *et al.* (1979).

The nomenclature mainly follows Voous (1977) which is becoming widely used as a standard work for the names of Palearctic

species. It forms the basis of a work currently being prepared on the distribution of birds in Nepal (C. and T. P. Inskipp *in prep.*). Differences from the nomenclature used by Ali and Ripley (1968-74) and Ripley (1982) are indicated.

Great care has been taken to assess the accuracy of all sight records included here. Full field notes of such records have been provided. One or two species have been omitted as details were not considered adequate. There are also two species, Red Spurfowl *Galloperdix spadicea* and Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* (= *Lanius collurio isabellinus*) which were included for Nepal by Ripley (1982) but we have not so far been able to discover the source of these statements.

FULVOUS WHISTLING DUCK (= Large Whistling Teal) *Dendrocygna bicolor*. Sharpe (1894) refers to a specimen collected in Nepal by B. H. Hodgson. Confirming this, an undated specimen collected by Hodgson in Nepal was located in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History) in 1981.

BAER'S POCHARD *Aythya baeri*. Observations of two males and one female were made at Kosi Barrage in the eastern terai (altitude 75 m) on 12 February, 1979 and 17 males and three females on 20 February, 1979 by R. Filby, R. Grimmett, F. Lambert, C. Murphy, L. Norton and N. J. Redman (Lambert 1979, Redman *et al.*, *in press*).

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis*. An immature male was observed at Kosi Barrage from 13 to 15 March, 1981 by T. P. and C. Inskipp (1981).

SAKER FALCON *Falco cherrug milvipes* (= *Falco biarmicus milvipes*). Specimens were collected in Nepal by B. H. Hodgson (Gray & Gray 1846). Manuscript notes on Hodgson's unpublished paintings indicate that three specimens were collected in the Kathmandu Valley on 1 and 11 November and 12 December. No year is given. It is listed for Nepal by Ali and Ripley (1972).

BARBARY FALCON *Falco pelegrinoides babylo-nicus* (= *Falco peregrinus babylo-nicus*). Listed as collected in Nepal by B. H. Hodgson (Sharpe

1874). However during a recent examination of specimens at the British Museum (Natural History) none which was unequivocally *F. pelegrinoides* could be located. Several birds were observed at Kagbeni and Tangbe, Thak-khola, altitude 3-3200 m in late July 1977, September and early October 1978 by J. M. Thiollay (1978).

SANDERLING *Calidris alpina*. A single bird was observed at Kosi Barrage on 11 February, 1979 by R. Filby, R. Grimmett, F. Lambert, C. Murphy, L. Norton, and N. J. Redman (Lambert 1979, Redman *et al.* *in press*).

\* CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*. An adult in breeding plumage was seen at Kosi Barrage on 22 April, 1981 by M Hendrikson, N. Krabbe and O. Lou (Krabbe 1981).

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* (= *Tringa terek*). One was seen at Kosi Barrage on 18 April, 1982 by J. Eames and R. Grimmett. (Eames 1982, Grimmett 1982).

COMMON GULL *Larus canus*. A first year bird was seen at Kosi Barrage on 12 February, 1979 by R. Filby, R. Grimmett, F. Lambert, C. Murphy, L. Norton and N. J. Redman. It was still present on 21 February 1979. (Redman *et al.*, *in press*). No previous published records for the Indian sub-continent.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*. An adult was observed at Kosi Barrage on 13 April, 1981 by D. Mills and N. Preston (1981).

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leuco-pteris*. A bird in breeding plumage was observed at Phewa Tal, Pokhara, west-central Nepal, (altitude 900 m), on 4 May, 1981 by M. Henriksen, N. Krabbe and O. Lou. (Krabbe 1981).

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*. Collected in the Dolpo at Terco Phijar on 8 July, 1978 and at Tnku, Do, Trap on 23 July, 1978 by H. S. Nepali (*pers. comm.* 1982).

WHITE-VENTED SPINETAIL SWIFT *Hirundapus*



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*cochinchinensis rupchandi* (= *Chaetura caudacuta rupchandi*). Collected by W. Koelz at Hitaura, central upper tarai on 24 June, 1947 (Biswas 1951).

ASIATIC HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon dasypus cashmiriensis* (= *Delichon urbica cashmiriensis*). Listed for Nepal by Ali & Ripley (1972). First definitely recorded by Diesselhorst (1968) from Periche in the Khumbu (altitude c. 4250 m) on 27 August, 1962. Specimen obtained.

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris*. Collected on 22 August, 1898 by E. Arigoni. This specimen was included in the O. V. Aplin Collection 1940 and was located in 1982 in the collection of the Oxford University Museum.

FOREST WAGTAIL *Dendronanthus indicus* (= *Motacilla indica*). Recorded at Royal Chitwan National Park in the central duns (altitude 75 m) on 30 November, 1979 by K. Curry-Lindahl (1980).

RUFOUS-TAILED THRUSH (= Dusky Thrush) *Turdus naumanni*. Ali & Ripley (1973) state central Nepal (large flocks in winter and spring — Proud, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 48: 703). This is predated by specimens collected by B. H. Hodgson (Gray & Gray 1846). Manuscript notes on Hodgson's unpublished paintings indicate that two specimens were collected in the Kathmandu Valley on 10 and 29 January (year not given).

MOUNTAIN TAILORBIRD (= Goldenheaded Tailor-Bird) *Orthotomus cuculatus*. Ali & Ripley (1973) state 'Eastern Nepal not recorded since Hodgson'. However it is not listed in the catalogues of Hodgson's collections (Gray & Gray 1846, Gray 1863). An undated Nepal specimen without a collector's name was located in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History) in 1981.

EASTERN GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia straminea*. One was ringed at Kosi Barrage on 11 April, 1976 by R. C. Gregory-

Smith (Gregory-Smith & Batson 1976).

BLACK-BROWED REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*. A single bird was observed at Kosi Tappu (altitude c. 75 m), on 19 January, 1981 by J. Hall (1981).

RADDE'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus schwarzi*. A bird was observed at Charali (altitude c. 75 m) in the eastern terai on 25 December, 1979 by R. Fairbank (1979). No previous published records for the Indian subcontinent.

RED-HEADED PARROTBILL (= Greater Red-headed Parrotbill) *Paradoxornis ruficeps*. A specimen collected in Nepal by B. H. Hodgson is referred to by Horsfield & Moore (1854). An undated specimen from the Seebohm collection, presumably collected by Hodgson, was located in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History) in 1981.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis*. A flock of about 50 birds was observed at Kosi Barrage on 16 February, 1981 by T. Baker, D. Mills and N. Preston (Baker 1981, Mills & Preston 1981).

EURASIAN SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*. A male was identified at Nagarjung (altitude c. 1500 m) in the Kathmandu Valley on 7 April, 1982 by C. Winyard (*pers comm.* 1982) and later seen by R. Fairbank, D. Mills and N. Preston. First published record for the Indian subcontinent by Gaston and Chattopadhyaya (1981).

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella*. An adult male was observed at Kagbeni (altitude c. 2940 m) in west central Nepal on 25 February, 1981 by T. Baker, D. Mills and N. Preston (Baker 1981, Mills & Preston 1981).

No previous published records for the Indian subcontinent.

RUSTIC BUNTING *Emberiza rustica*. A male was seen at Sauraha (altitude c. 75 m) near the Royal Chitwan National Park on 31 January, 1981 by P. Ewins and A. del Nevo (del

Nevo & Ewins and A. del Nevo (del Nevo & Ewins 1981).

No previous published records for the Indian subcontinent.

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